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Kundah and Periyar Hydro-Electric Schemes

* 1271 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Kundah and Periyar Hydro-Electric Schemes have been sanctioned; and

(*b*) the amount proposed to be allotted for these schemes in the next budget?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The Periyar Hydro-Electric Scheme has already been sanctioned by the Government. The question of sanctioning the Kundah Hydro-Electric Scheme will arise only after the approval of the Planning Commission for its inclusion in the First Five-Year Plan has been received.

" (*b*) As the Kundah Scheme has not yet been sanctioned, no provision has been made for it in the next year's budget. A provision of Rs. 1,09,16,500 (rupees one hundred and nine lakhs, sixteen thousand and five hundred) has been made in the budget for 1955–56 for the Periyar Hydro-Electric Scheme."

Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Has the Committee of Experts appointed by the Central Government recommended that priority be given to the Barapole Scheme in preference to the Kundah Scheme? "

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" No decision has been taken."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" இந்த குந்தா ஸ்கீம் ரொம்ப முக்கியமானத் திட்டம். இந்தத் திட்டத்தை இரண்டாவது ஐந்து ஆண்டுத் திட்டத்தில் சேர்த்துக்கொள்வதற்கு சென்னை அரசாங்கம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு யோசனை கூறியதா ? "

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We have been impressing on the Central Government the importance of the scheme. But it is being considered by the Planning Commission and they have to give a decision."

Sri S. THINAKARASAMI THEVAR :—" Is it a fact that though the Government are taking special interest in pushing through the Periyar Hydro-Electric Scheme, still there is some departmental delay in the execution of that scheme? May I know the reason for such delay? "

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no knowledge of any delay as alleged by the hon. Member. If he brings any matter to my notice in specific terms, I shall have it looked into."

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" இந்த குந்தா ஸ்கீமினுல் அதிக மின்சார உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம். பாரபோல் ஸ்கீம் அவ்வளவு உபயோகமானதல்ல. ஆனுல் இரண்டும் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் பரிசீலனையில்

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இருக்கிறது. ஆதலால் சென்னை அரசாங்கம் பாரபோல் ஸ்கீமைவிட குந்த ஸ்கீமை எடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கு மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தை வற்புறுத்துவார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" இரண்டு ஸ்கீமும் பரிசீலனையில் இருக்கின்றன. இரண்டு ஸ்கீம்களில் எதாவது ஒரு ஸ்கீமைத்தான் மத்திய அரசாங்கம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் நான் குந்தா ஸ்கீமைத்தான் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்."

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM :—" Is there any inter-State trouble in regard to the finalization of the scheme with reference to the Kundah Project? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" No, Sir."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" According to the present arrangement, may I know when the Kundah Scheme will be taken up for execution? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" As soon as it is sanctioned, we can take it up. Then only the time-limit can be stated."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know the estimated cost of these two schemes and the expected return from each of them? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be given notice of."

Merger of the Prohibition Department with the Police Department

* 1272 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) on what date the Prohibition Department in this State was merged with the Police Department ;

(*b*) whether the Government have decided to absorb all the officers and the staff of the Prohibition Department in the Police Department without affecting their rank or status; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any proposal to retrench any members of the staff of the Prohibition Department as a result of this merger?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) The Prohibition Department has not been merged with the Police Department but the work of enforcement of Prohibition in the eight districts previously in charge of the Excise and Prohibition Department has been transferred to the Police Department with effect from 3rd January 1955.

" (*b*) The question of absorption of the transferred Excise officers and staff in the Police department will be considered